

shaped entrance slot of the first section of the twin wire zone;  
said single first drainage element in the first section[, the  
curved drainage element] being a single forming roll having an  
20 open surface to enable drainage of water from the fiber  
suspension and being curved along the path of the belts through  
the twin wire zone, the [curved drainage element] single forming  
roll being engaged by one of the wire belts[, ] for curving the  
path of the belts around the [curved drainage element] single  
25 forming roll after the entrance of the suspension into the  
entrance slot;

the twin wire zone having a second section following the  
first section along the path of the belts through the twin wire  
zone; in the second section, a plurality of first drainage strips  
30 are positioned within the loop of the first wire belt and are for  
contacting the first wire belt; in the second section, a  
plurality of second drainage strips are positioned within the  
loop of the second wire belt and are for contacting the second  
wire belt; the first strips being shifted in position along the  
35 path of the wire belts with respect to the second strips so that  
the first and second strips are offset and in a non-opposing  
relationship; first support means for resiliently supporting the  
first drainage strips against the respective wire belt that the  
strips contact;

40 second support means supporting the second drainage  
strips rigidly against the second wire belt; and

means for supplying a vacuum in the area of the second  
drainage strips;

the twin wire zone having a third section following the  
45 second section along the path of the wire belts through the twin  
wire zone; a second drainage element in the third section, for  
being engaged by one of the wire belts as the wire belts travel  
over the second drainage element, the second drainage element  
having an open surface to enable water to be drained through the  
50 wire belt in contact therewith; and

the twin wire zone apart from said [first drainage  
element which is a] single forming roll being free of rolls which  
deflect the twin wire zone.